



KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MEDIA ADVISORY

No. 16-130

October 19, 2016

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SOUTHEAST CRUNCH ENCOURAGES FARM TO SCHOOL INITIATIVES

(FRANKFORT, Ky.) – Kentucky schools, preschools, colleges, individuals and the Kentucky Department of Education's Division of School and Community Nutrition invite you to join them in celebrating National Farm to School Month in October.

As part of the celebration, Kentucky will take part in the [Southeast Crunch](#) with other southeast states, including North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee and Florida. At noon on Friday, Oct. 21, participants are invited to crunch down on locally-grown and available fruits and vegetables. Kentucky participants will sample apples during the event with participants in other states crunching down on locally-produced cucumbers and spinach, among other fresh food items.

The Southeast Crunch encourages healthy eating and supports Farm to School and local food initiatives throughout the southeast United States. Those who cannot participate at noon on Friday are encouraged to plan a Crunch at a different time during the month.

During the event, Farm to School specialist Diana Drury will lead KDE's Division of School and Community Nutrition staff and other KDE employees in sampling local apples, including some from Drury's own farm. Drury also will share information about Farm to School programs in Kentucky with KDE employees.

The Southeast Crunch is one of many events planned across the country this month as part of [National Farm to School Month](#), which seeks to celebrate and promote connections between children and local food. From taste tests in the cafeteria and nutrition education activities in the classroom, to farm visits and school garden harvest parties, schools, farms, communities and organizations in all 50 states and D.C. will take part in the celebrations. The National Farm to School Network advocated for the creation of National Farm to School Month by Congress in 2010 and organizes the celebration with dozens of partners across the country each year.

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